



## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

### JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration/500 West Temple Street, Room B-50/Los Angeles, California 90012 / (213) 974-1431

### MINUTES OF THE 690<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE JUDICIAL PROCEDURES COMMISSION

The 690<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission was held on March 13, 2008, in Room 140 of the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California. A list of those present follows:

#### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Nelson L. Atkins, Chair  
Paul A. Jacobs, Vice Chair  
Andrew Friedman  
Annie Y. Huang  
Ann Jackson  
Clifton W. Albright  
Gary L. Barr  
Neal S. Millard

#### **MEMBERS EXCUSED**

Bertrum M. CeDillos  
Sylvia Scott-Hayes  
William Galloway

#### **EX OFFICIO MEMBERS**

Bernard Barber, Detective, Los Angeles Police Department  
Dennis Zine, Councilman, Independent Cities Association  
Heather Aubry, Los Angeles City Attorney's Office  
James Endman, Honorable Judge, Los Angeles Superior Court  
Laura Green, Public Defender's Office  
Samuel Dacus, Captain, Sheriff's Department

#### **COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES**

Bea Dieringer, District Attorney's Office  
Christian Hansen, Lieutenant, Los Angeles Police Department  
Denise Montgomery, Los Angeles Police Department

#### **STAFF**

George Britton, Commission Staff  
Mireya Rivera, Commission Staff  
Ramon Campos, Commission Staff

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Atkins called the 690<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Los Angeles County Judicial Procedures Commission (JPC) to order at 12:34 p.m.

#### MEMBERS

Nelson L. Atkins  
**Chair**

Paul A. Jacobs  
**Vice Chair**

Clifton Albright  
Annie Y. Huang  
Bertrum CeDillos  
Andrew Friedman  
Gary L. Barr  
William J. Galloway  
Ann Jackson  
Neal S. Millard  
Sylvia Scott-Hayes

### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The pledge of allegiance was led by Councilman Dennis Zine. Introductions of Commissioners, Ex-Officio Members, guests and new Commission Services Intern Ramon Campos.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 15, 2007**

On motion of Commissioner Albright, seconded by Commissioner Millard, and unanimously carried, the minutes for the meeting of November 15, 2007, were approved as submitted.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES**

#### **Fund Raising Concepts**

Chairman Atkins began by acknowledging and thanking Commissioner Jackson for all of the effort she has put into this important issue.

Commissioner Jackson reported the following:

- Commissioner Jackson spoke with Commissioner CeDillos who identified a possible donor foundation that would contribute funds to the child waiting rooms. However, Dr. Margaret Little, stated, that child waiting rooms did not need additional funding at the moment. Commissioner Jackson recommended meeting with Commissioner CeDillos to revisit the likelihood of the donor foundation funding other child welfare related programs in need.
- Chairman Atkins stated that he agreed with the recommendation to revisit the issue with Commissioner CeDillos.

#### **Diversity on the Bench**

Commissioner Annie Huang and Ex-Officio Member Heather Aubry reported the following background of judicial appointee process:

- Commissioner Huang discussed application, experience requirements, and review process for appointing judges. Brief Synopsis: 10 years practicing experience, online application from the Governor's website. Appointed by John Davis is a small group of advisors in Governor's office that reviews the applications and rates the possible candidates. Candidate's applications are then submitted to local bar associations and finally sent to Governor.

- Commissioner Albright was provided with a study on Race, Ethnicity, and Culture Demographic data on existing judges. Commissioner Albright mentioned Loyola Marymount University may be interested in participating in initiative to increase diversity on the bench.
- Chair Atkins stated that he's been communicating with John Clarke, Executive Officer/Clerk, Superior Court who requested assistance from the Commission in finding candidate's on the bench. Chair Atkins suggested to the Commission if some plan can be put together with the San Gabriel Bar Association and other Bar Associations as to how individuals can be presented. Commissioner Millard stated that the Commission could not recommend but facilitate the process for hiring diversity on the bench.
- Councilman Zine suggested contacting the Daily Journal and/or other publishers for possible cooperation with a possible feature story to help promote minority hiring of judges.
- Laura Green inquired on how diversity is defined by the Commission, ethnicity, race, background... etc. Councilman Zine states some ethnic demographic data from the report brought in by Commissioner Albright shows strong disparities between numbers of judges from different ethnic backgrounds.

#### Child Custody Exchange Program Update

Bea Dieringer gave an update on the exchange program as follows:

- The Commission has not received any support from Sheriff's Departments regarding allocating space and personnel for the program. Funding May be the key issue for Captain's at Sheriff's stations. Carson has the program operating with participants paying fees. Program is estimated at costing \$6000 to \$8000 a month per station to operate. Participants in Child Custody Exchange Program need location availability on a daily basis.
- Other options will be investigated to help reduce monthly cost. Suggested options: volunteer programs, uniformed citizens, explorer scouts doing service hours at stations, non-profit organizations, retired employees, part time employees. If deputies are not used there may be an additional cost for training volunteers.

- Captain Samuel Dacus from Sheriff's Department identified 11 locations, but confirms that there is a lack of space in the desired Sheriff's stations according to the residing Captains.
- Lieutenant Christian Hansen stated that a follow up will be necessary. There is a possibility that some LAPD stations may have room for program in facilities.
- Commissioner Albright and Friedman proposed an invitation letter to Sheriff Lee Baca to address the Commission regarding the program implementation at the Sheriff's stations. Chairman Atkins asked Bea Dieringer to help prepare the letter and offered to sign it once it is ready.

#### Update on Self-Help Legal Access Centers

- Will be discussed at the next regular meeting.

#### Overtime Reduction Program

- Lieutenant Christian Hansen of the Los Angeles Police Department discussed methods that were successful in reducing hours of overtime reported by officers. By increasing accountability by superiors of reporting officers, reducing hours of court time, and reducing hours of standby officers waiting to testify in court have been methods introduced.
- Detective Barber reported a reduction of 2,800 hours of overtime and a reduction of 8,500 hours of on-call officers. Overtime slips are issued and collected for accountability when overtime hours are worked by officers and are being efficiently audited if incorrect.
- Chairman Atkins thanked the Los Angeles Police Department representatives for their work on the project.

#### Vacant Commissioners Positions

Chairman Atkins announced the following vacancies in Judicial Procedures Commission:

- Two vacancies in First Supervisorial District, one vacancy in Third Supervisorial District and one vacancy in Fourth Supervisorial District.

- Councilman Zine expressed interest in representing the Third Supervisorial District.

**MATTERS NOT ON THE POSTED AGENDA (TO BE PRESENTED AND PLACED ON A FUTURE AGENDA)**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the 690<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Judicial Procedures Commission adjourned at 1:33 p.m.